

Serial No.: 10/057,467
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In the Claims:

Please cancel claims 1-7, without prejudice or disclaimer.

Please add the following new claims:

-8. (New) A method for in vitro screening for a transdominant intracellular bioactive agent capable of altering the phenotype of a cell, said method comprising the steps:

- a) introducing a molecular library of retroviral vectors comprising randomized candidate nucleic acids into a plurality of cells, wherein each of said nucleic acids comprises a different nucleotide sequence, wherein said randomized candidate nucleic acids are expressed in said cells to produce a plurality of randomized peptides, wherein each of said retroviral vectors comprises a nucleic acid encoding at least one glycine N-terminal to the randomized peptide;
- b) screening said plurality of cells for a cell exhibiting an altered phenotype, wherein said altered phenotype is due to the presence of a transdominant bioactive agent; and
- c) identifying said transdominant bioactive agent.

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9. (New) A method according to claim 8 wherein said identifying comprises:

- i) isolating said cell exhibiting an altered phenotype.

10. (New) A method according to claim 9 wherein said identifying further comprises:

- ii) sequencing said nucleic acid encoding said transdominant bioactive agent.

11. (New) A method according to claim 8 wherein each of said nucleic acids further comprise a presentation sequence capable of presenting said expression product in a conformationally restricted form.

12. (New) A method according to claim 8 wherein said cells are mammalian cells.

Serial No.: 10/057,467
Filed: January 22, 2002

13. (New) A method according to claim 8 wherein said library comprises at least 10^4 different nucleic acids.
14. (New) A method according to claim 8 wherein said library comprises at least 10^5 different nucleic acids.
15. (New) A method according to claim 8 wherein said library comprises at least 10^6 different nucleic acids.
16. (New) A method according to claim 8 wherein said library comprises at least 10^7 different nucleic acids.
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17. (New) A method according to claim 8 wherein said library comprises at least 10^8 different nucleic acids.
18. (New) A method according to claim 8 wherein said library comprises at least 10^9 different nucleic acids.
19. (New) A method according to claim 8 wherein each of said candidate nucleic acids is linked to nucleic acid encoding at least one fusion partner.
20. (New) A method according to claim 19 wherein said fusion partner comprises a nuclear localization signal sequence.
21. (New) A method for in vitro screening for a transdominant intracellular bioactive agent capable of altering the phenotype of a cell, said method comprising the steps:
a) introducing a molecular library of retroviral vectors comprising randomized candidate nucleic acids into a plurality of cells, wherein each of said nucleic acids

Serial No.: 10/057,467
Filed: January 22, 2002

comprises a different nucleotide sequence, wherein said randomized candidate nucleic acids are expressed in said cells to produce a plurality of randomized peptides;

- b) screening said plurality of cells for a cell exhibiting an altered phenotype, wherein said altered phenotype is due to the presence of a transdominant bioactive agent, wherein said altered phenotype is cell growth; and
- c) identifying said transdominant bioactive agent.

22. (New) A method for in vitro screening for a transdominant intracellular bioactive agent capable of altering the phenotype of a cell, said method comprising the steps:

- a) introducing a molecular library of retroviral vectors comprising randomized candidate nucleic acids into a plurality of cells, wherein each of said nucleic acids comprises a different nucleotide sequence, wherein said randomized candidate nucleic acids are expressed in said cells to produce a plurality of randomized peptides;
- b) screening said plurality of cells for a cell exhibiting an altered phenotype, wherein said altered phenotype is due to the presence of a transdominant bioactive agent, wherein said altered phenotype is cell death; and
- c) identifying said transdominant bioactive agent.

23. (New) A method for in vitro screening for a transdominant intracellular bioactive agent capable of altering the phenotype of a cell, said method comprising the steps:

- a) introducing a molecular library of retroviral vectors comprising randomized candidate nucleic acids into a plurality of cells, wherein each of said nucleic acids comprises a different nucleotide sequence, wherein said randomized candidate nucleic acids are expressed in said cells to produce a plurality of randomized peptides;

Serial No.: 10/057,467
Filed: January 22, 2002

- b) screening said plurality of cells for a cell exhibiting an altered phenotype, wherein said altered phenotype is due to the presence of a transdominant bioactive agent, wherein said altered phenotype is a change in expression of cellular differentiation markers; and
- c) identifying said transdominant bioactive agent.

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24. (New) The method according to claim 23, wherein said cellular differentiation markers are characteristic of T-cell activation.
25. (New) The method according to claim 23, wherein said cellular differentiation markers are characteristic of B-cell activation.--
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